

Dear Members,

A lot of you have written to me saying that you cannot find the LEGO sets you want in the shops — especially the LEGOLAND Space Sets.

I'm sorry about this but hope you will have more luck before Christmas.

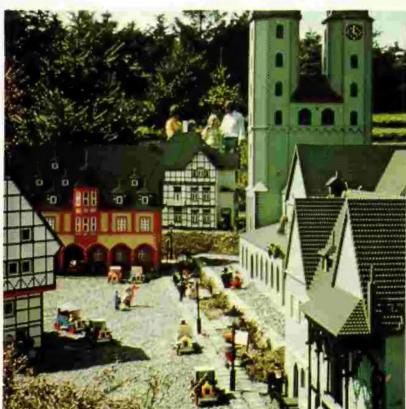
The trouble is that everyone seems to want LEGO sets and we just cannot keep up with the demand even though we have put far more sets into the shops this year than ever before.

One member asked "why don't you just make more?" That's a very simple question but not quite so simple to answer.

One answer is that we are making more. The big LEGO factory in Denmark has done marvels in sending us more than we originally asked for. But packing LEGO sets is much more complicated than you might imagine and takes very much longer than you would believe. Already we have had to give estimates of how many of each of 150 different sets we expect to sell in *Christmas 1980* so that the factory can start planning how many new moulds to order and to tell their suppliers of raw material and packaging how much they are likely to need. And we haven't even got to Christmas 1979 yet!

Anyway, I hope most of you do manage to find the sets you want and that you will have a very happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely,  
**CLIVE NICHOLLS**  
Club President

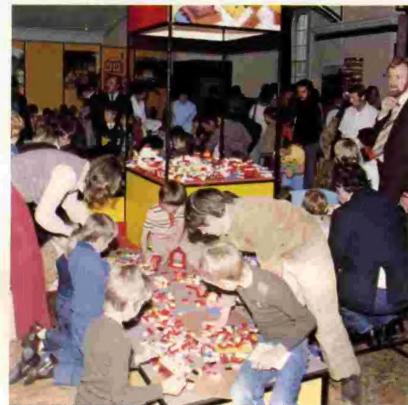


## Birmingham rally an all-time great

Over 2,500 people came to the first Club Rally in Birmingham on 25th August. This was far more than we expected and must have been the greatest gathering of LEGO fans in one place at one time ever. What a fantastic day!

One family flew down from Aberdeen, just for the day. Another came specially from Cork in Ireland and many more drove over 200 miles. Despite the milling crowds, many members managed to elbow their way through to the piles of LEGO bricks in the big Lecture Hall of the Birmingham Museum and build some super models. The most impressive was a huge church, nearly 1 metre high and almost twice as long. Several families joined together in this project and spent nearly the whole day working on it, finishing it just before the Rally ended.

Luckily the Birmingham Corporation allowed us to use their huge and magnificent Banqueting Suite, in which we managed to serve 3000 cups of tea, 65 gallons of orange squash



Club Rally Day in Birmingham

A glimpse of some members busily at work in the Birmingham Museum before the crowds got so thick you couldn't see the play tables for children.

and thousands of sandwiches and cakes.

It looks as though we will have to hold any future Club Rallies in a place the size of the Albert Hall in London in order to fit in the rapidly growing membership.

## To LEGOLAND® in Denmark next time?

At the Rally, many members asked if the Club could organise a visit to the fabulous LEGOLAND Leisure Park in Denmark next year.

That really would be fantastic wouldn't it?

Suppose we could charter a big ship to take us on a 3-4 day cruise to Denmark with a full day in LEGOLAND, perhaps over the Spring Holiday in May next year. That really would be a Club Rally to remember!

Before we can plan this we need to have some idea of how many people would be likely to go so it would be a

great help if you would discuss it with your parents and send back the question slip enclosed, if you feel there is a good chance of your being able to go.

This does not commit you to anything of course, for this is just an idea at this stage. But if we had to limit the numbers who could go, we would naturally give priority to those who were first to say they would be interested.

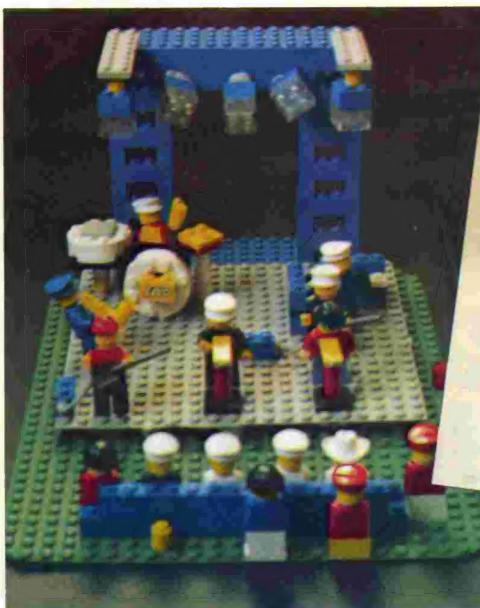
The cost would probably be around £50 including meals — maybe a bit more for adults and a bit less for children, though that is only a rough guess at this stage.

Our next Newsletter in February 1980 will give full details of the trip, if indeed it can be organised, so we hope you can wait until then, though the suspense will be killing!

Here's hoping . . .

### A corner of LEGOLAND in Denmark

LEGOLAND is not just a series of model towns like this one, but has cars you drive, boats and a train to ride in, a puppet theatre, a full scale wild West town with pony rides and lots more to do and see.

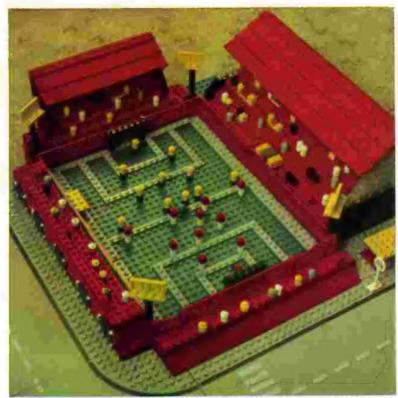


▲  
**LEGOLAND Band**

That's the title which David Asch (11) of Newhaven gives to this splendid model of a rock concert. Notice particularly the way the saxophonist is leaning backwards. Very naturalistic.

▼  
**Football Stadium**

Angus Lund of Wendover is 7 and admits his Dad helped a bit with this super model. It is not an original idea but it is splendidly detailed and realistic.



▼  
**Grand Piano**

Mr. Barnes of Stroud is not a Club Member, but we thought you'd like to see this model.

Mr. Barnes is blind so his family help him to select the colours and shapes he needs.

Just imagine what it would be like, trying to build a model with your eyes shut. Amazing!



▲  
**Diesel Loco**

A beautifully detailed model of a British Rail diesel by Paul Webb of Thame. Paul is obviously a train enthusiast as well as a LEGO builder.

**MASTER I  
AWAR**

A "golden" Master Builder Badge to each of the members whose models are shown here. If you have a photograph of a special model, send it in and you too could become a Master Builder if your model is shown in the next issue of *Bricks 'n' Pieces*.

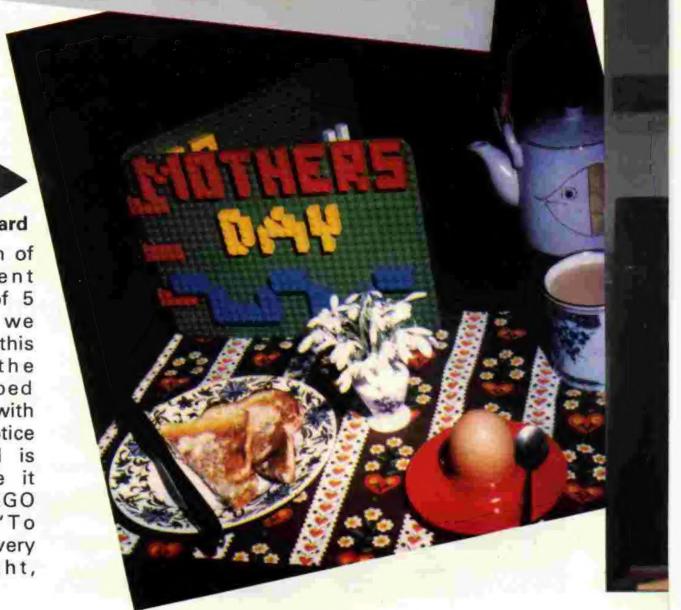


▼  
**Idea!**

Simon Hunns of Colchester wins a Master Builder badge for this effective idea. When playing with his Legos, he replaces the heads with a transparent space helmet back on. This gives his figures different ranks or planets of origin. "Loc coming". Clever!

▼  
**Viking Ship**

Damian  
Norwich  
longsh  
mecha  
bucket  
effective  
dragon



▼  
**Mothers Day Card**

Elspeth Robson of Derby sent photographs of 5 models but we especially liked this card on the breakfast-in-bed tray complete with snowdrops. Notice how the card is hinged. Inside it reads (in LEGO bricks) "To Mummy". A very nice thought, Elspeth.

pper

an imagine what  
must be to send  
carriages  
ping around  
ew Burns  
round ride.  
w lives in St.  
on Sea.



## BUILDER ARDS

goes  
models  
ave a  
send it  
Master  
in the



Master Builder badge for this simple but  
LEGOLAND Spacemen, he removes the  
it red or green round brick and puts the  
spacemen coloured visors to identify  
look out! The dreaded Red Visor Men are

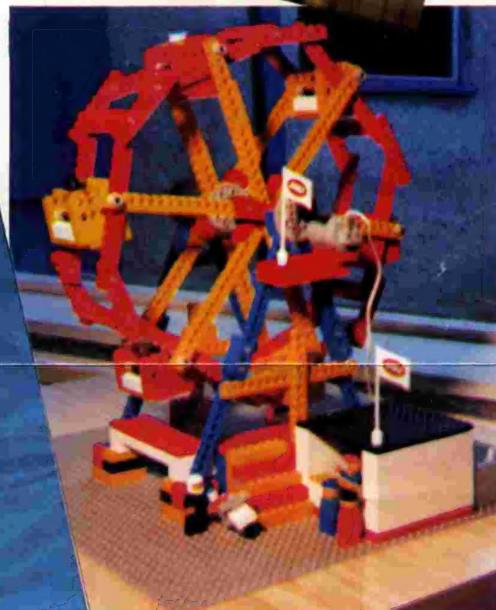
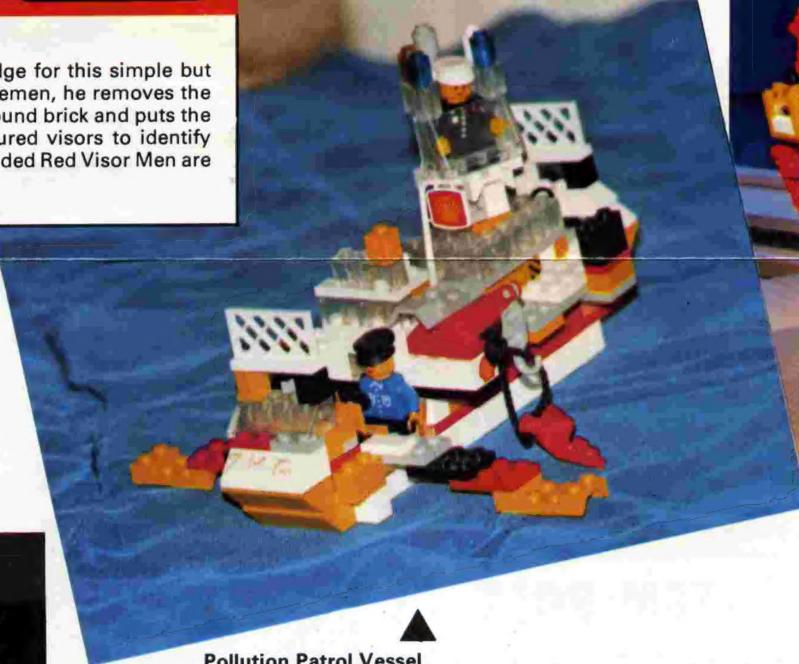
### Cuckoo Clock

Michael Huckstep (16) of Oxford had a  
model in the last Newsletter, but this  
clock is so good we had to include him  
again. It actually tells the time, the  
pendulums swing and the cuckoo  
really does pop out on the hour.  
Fantastic!



hip

Lucas (8) of  
n built this  
ip. The  
nical-grab  
makes very  
jaws for the  
row.



### Ferris Wheel

Stuart Macfarlane (9) of Paisley has used  
his LEGO Technical Sets to build this  
powered model of a fairground wheel,  
complete with paydesk at the entrance.



### Rocket & Gantry

Paul Budgen of  
Rochdale seems to  
have reached for  
the stars with this  
model. Not only is  
it very tall but the  
gantry crawler is  
motorised too, just  
like the real thing.



### Groundsman

Here is further  
proof that you  
don't have to build  
huge models to  
win a Master  
Builders badge.  
Michael Haward of  
Woking is 6½ but  
already has a sharp  
eye. He must have  
spotted a  
groundsman  
rolling a cricket  
pitch with a giant  
roller and thought  
"Aha . . .!"

# MOSAICS COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to all of you who sent in designs and photographs of mosaics. Hundreds of them, which made it very hard to decide the winners but after much sorting and discussion, these are the ones we liked best. LEGO sets and Master Builder badges go to the following:

## Over 9 Years

### (a) First Prize

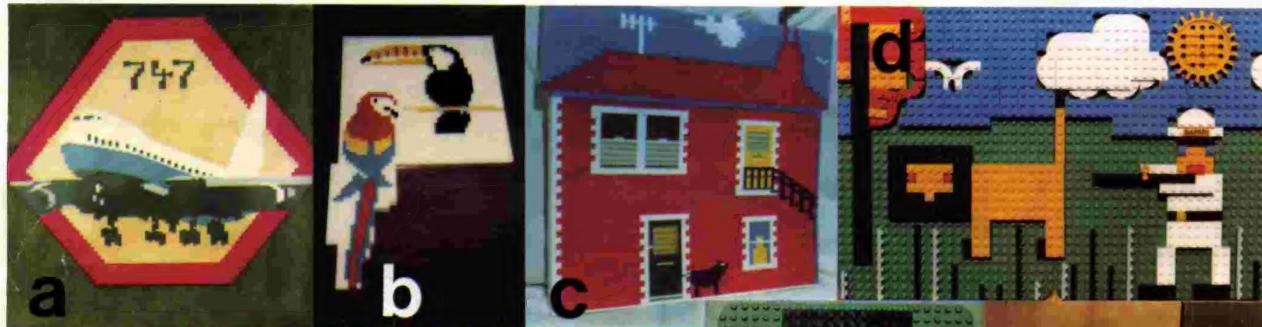
**Boeing 747** by Julian James (11½) of Steyning. A most stylish design and an unusual shape.

### (a) Second

**Tropical birds** by Richard Austin (14) of Abertillery. Like Julian's Boeing, this also breaks away from the usual rectangle in an original and imaginative way.

### (c) Third

**My House** by Peter Schwartz (13) of Bristol. A simple idea, but it is the details like the fire escape, half open windows and the dog by the door which makes it special.



## COMPETITION CORNER

We'll call this a "Useful Objects" competition.

What we are looking for this time is a photograph of, or design for, anything that could actually be used. Not a model of something but the thing itself. It could be a pot-plant holder, a pencil box, a place mat or a paper bin. What about book ends, a nest-box for birds, perhaps even a spice-rack (provided it could be strong enough!). Anything that you could actually use around the home, at school or in the garden.

Look around for ideas and you will be surprised at how many things you can make.

Again there will be two age groups, over 9 years and under 9 years, so be sure to put your age on your entry. But this time the prizes will be a copy of your design, built by the LEGO model designer David Lyall, and glued together so that you can actually keep the object without losing the use of your LEGO bricks!

Send your entries to LEGO U.K. Ltd. (Club Competition) Wrexham, Clwyd LL13 9UH.

Closing date is 15th January 1980.

## Under 9 years

### (d) First Prize

**Safari** by Jimmy Day (6½) of Grimsby. Jimmy says lions are his favourite animal and he doesn't approve of hunting them but he "thought it would make a good picture". It does! The gear wheel sun and the edgeways-on slimbricks for grass are very neat.

### (e) Second

**Indian Chief** by David Murray (7) of Insch. A colourful design with great vitality. We especially like his feathered head-dress.

### (f) Third

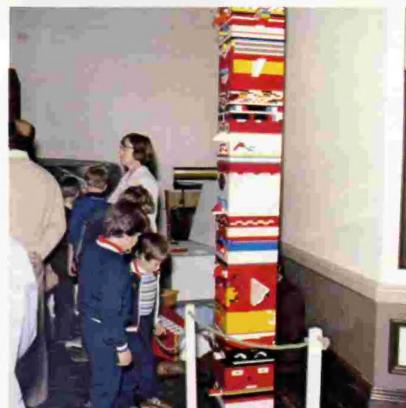
**Superman** by Kenneth Loveday (7) of Sanderstead. We hope Kenneth won't mind, but we chose this because it made us laugh. When we thought of the muscular hero of the comic strips, Kenneth's version looks so happy and friendly.

**(g) A special award for sheer cheek!** Richard Thompson (7) of Oswestry gets a Master Builder badge for his "portrait" of Clive Nicholls our Club President, even though he says it doesn't look a bit like him!



## TOTEM POLE IN BIRMINGHAM

This huge totem pole was one of the many astonishing models built by visitors to the "Children Build" exhibition held during the Summer at the Birmingham Museum. There were over 23,000 visitors to the exhibition during the five weeks it ran, breaking all attendance records. That's the power of LEGO play for you!



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Some members have written asking if their Club membership has finished. The answer is, don't worry, because you will get a letter with the last of your three Bricks 'n Pieces

newsletters reminding you when your year's membership is about to end and telling you how you can become a "Key Member" by staying on for a second year.